

The first meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1915 was held in their office in the Lemon Building, 1729 New York avenue, northwest, Washington, D. C., on Friday, July 24, 1914. The following members were present:

Daniel C. French, Chairman;

Frederick Law Olmsted;

Cass Gilbert;

Charles Moore;

Edwin H. Blashfield;

Peirce Anderson;

also Colonel Wm. W. Harts, U. S. Army, the Secretary and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 9:15 a. m., and proceeded at once to the business before it.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes of the last meeting, held May 8, 1914, were presented and approved.
2. TEMPORARY EMPLOYEE: At the recommendation of the Secretary the Commission authorized the employment of a temporary stenographer and typewriter for a period not to exceed three days.
3. RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION OF SERVICES OF LATE SECRETARY: Upon motion the Commission unanimously adopted the following resolution, and requested the Chairman to transmit a copy to the former Secretary of the Commission, Colonel Spencer Cosby, United States Army, now Military Attache to the American Embassy in Paris, France:

The members of the Commission of Fine Arts desire to place on record their appreciation of the services of Colonel Spencer Cosby, the Secretary and Executive Officer of the Commission from its organization, June, 1910, until the expiration of his detail as Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds on October 1, 1913, when he was detailed as Military Attache to the American Embassy in France. Colonel Cosby's familiarity with the needs of the District of Columbia, his keen appreciation of the opportunities to carry out on the largest scale park and civic improvements generally at the National Capital; his earnest desire always to seek the best solution of problems; combined with the large responsibilities imposed upon the Officer in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds, were of great advantage to the Commission at the beginning of its work and during the three years of his Secretaryship. He was unflinchingly loyal to the Commission, and at the same time was tactful in handling the relations between public officials and this body. The personal good wishes of each member are with him in his new field of activity.

4. SELECTION OF SCULPTOR TO EXECUTE STATUARY GROUP FOR PEACE PALACE AT THE HAGUE:

The Commission thereupon considered the request of the Department of State for the name of the artist who should be entrusted with the execution of a piece of statuary for the Peace Palace at The Hague. 363 photographs and 1 model showing executed works of seventeen sculptors (Messrs. Herbert Adams, Paul W. Bartlett, Karl Pitter, Gutzon Borglum, Sherry E. Fry, Albert Jaegers, Isidore Konti, Frederick MacMonnies, Hermon MacNeil, Charles H. Niehaus, Andrew O'Connor, William Ordway Partridge, Bela Lyon Pratt, F. W. Ruckstuhl, and Adolph A. Weinman, and the Misses Evelyn B. Longman and Edith Hope Ogden), which had been submitted to the State Department by the latter, were examined carefully, and discussed. After several informal ballots, the Commission unanimously decided to recommend Mr. Andrew O'Connor as the sculptor best qualified to fulfill the requirements in this particular case. In view of the oral request of the Assistant Secretary of State having this matter in charge that the Commission include the names of two other sculptors, the Commission asked the Secretary to state to the Department, informally, that, should Mr. O'Connor not be able to undertake the work, Mr. Herbert Adams or Mr. Paul Bartlett would produce results satisfactory to the State Department. (See Exhibits A and B.)

In this connection Mr. Gilbert called the attention of the members to a letter he had received from Miss Edith Hope Ogden, one of the sculptors above mentioned, calling attention to the model she had submitted as evidence of her ability.

5. COMPETITION FOR A POST OFFICE BUILDING FOR PORTLAND, OREGON: The Secretary laid before the Commission a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury requesting the benefit of their advice "concerning the award in a competition for a post office building in Portland, Oregon". This letter was accompanied by six sets of anonymous drawings received by the Secretary in this competition.

The Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Mr. Oscar Wenderoth, appeared before the Commission for consultation. During the discussion that ensued, Mr. Wenderoth suggested that, since the Commission have not gone into the terms of the programme of competition and do not constitute themselves a jury of award, they examine the plans, looking for evidence of skill on the part of the authors and recommend to the Secretary that any one or more of the sets of drawings identified by the numbers appearing thereon indicate that the author or authors have displayed great skill in comparison with the authors of the remaining sets; the Secretary of the Treasury, with the assistance of the Supervising Architect, could then consider these preferred sets of drawings in relation to the programme and in that way make the award, discharging the functions of a jury which the Commission of Fine Arts could ^{not} well undertake. The preparation of this report was referred to a committee of Mr. Anderson and Mr. Olmsted. The report, transmitted later, stated that in the opinion of the Commission, no one of the designs submitted shows sufficient evidence of skill to justify the appointment of its author as the architect. (See Exhibit C.)

6. LIMIT OF HEIGHT OF BUILDING TO BE ERECTED TO HOUSE BUREAUS OF INTERIOR DEPARTMENT: The Commission next considered the request of the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement regarding the maximum height to which they believe the structure should be erected that is contemplated for construction on square 143 in the city of Washington, located

between 18th and 19th, E and F streets, northwest, and which is to house various
bureaus and offices of the Interior Department. Mr. Wenderoth, Supervising
Architect of the Treasury, being present, also conferred with the Commission regard-
ing this question. The preparation of the reply in this matter was referred to
a committee consisting of Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Moore and Mr. Anderson. It was decided
that eighty feet should be the limit of height for buildings in the zone south of
Pennsylvania avenue and west of Seventeenth street in order to protect the Lincoln
Memorial, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Pan-American Union Building, and the other
monumental buildings, existing and to be located in that area; and that Government
buildings should not exceed the height allowed for private buildings in any area.
The full reply is given under Exhibit D attached.

7. SUGGESTION OF SCULPTOR FOR MEADE MEMORIAL: The Secretary laid before the
Commission the request of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania
for the name of a sculptor to be considered by them in connection with the design for
a memorial proposed to General George Gordon Meade in Washington by the State of
Pennsylvania. Mr. John W. Frazier of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Secretary of
the state commission, and Mr. John B. Patrick of Harrisburgh, Pennsylvania, and Mr.
John McElroy of Washington, D. C., members of committees of that commission, appeared
at 11:30 for a conference with reference to this question. The members of the
Meade Commission stated that they were considering (1) the question of making the
direct selection of an artist of high reputation, giving Mr. Paul Bartlett as their
first choice, and Mr. J. Otto Schweitzer as second choice, and (2) as an alternative
proposition, a competition limited to three sculptors. They were advised that the
direct selection of the sculptor would be in line with the principles which the
Commission of Fine Arts believe should govern the selection of artists to execute
public works; should they, however, decide upon the competitive method of selecting
the artist, a jury of competent experts should be selected, the jury to be made up

preferably of one sculptor, one architect, and one landscape architect, who could be relied upon to advise them on the technical questions incident to the construction of this memorial. Upon their request for suggestions as to the personnel of this jury, in case this latter method of selection should be decided upon, the following list was given them informally:

For the architect: Mr. Edgar V. Seeley, or Mr. Clarence Zantzinger, or Mr. Paul Cret, all of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

For the landscape architect: Mr. Thomas Sears of the firm of Sears and Wendell, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The sculptor member to be suggested by the President of the National Sculpture Society, New York City.

(See Exhibit E attached).

8. ^{Re}REPORT TO SENATE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES ON THE LIBRARY IN ~~THE~~ MEADE MEMORIAL: The Secretary next laid before the Commission the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon Senate Bill 1299, 63d Congress, 1st Session, providing "for the preparation of a plan and the erection of a foundation and pedestal on ground belonging to the United States in the city of Washington upon which to place a memorial or statue to be furnished by the State of Pennsylvania of Major General George Gordon Meade", and the request of the House Committee on the Library for a similar report upon H. J. Res. 234, 63d Congress, 2d Session, regarding the same subject-matter. The Commission directed that a reply, paraphrasing their report of March 28, 1914, to the Secretary of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania (Exhibit F), be forwarded to each Committee. (See Exhibit G and H.)

9. SOUVENIR COINS FOR PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION: Mr. George E. Roberts, Director of the Mint of the Treasury Department, appeared at 12:15 upon direction of the Secretary of the Treasury for a consultation regarding competent artists to execute medals and souvenir coins as proposed in bills pending before the present Congress. Mr. Roberts stated that he was anticipating the passage of the bills, and that this course was necessitated by the fact that these coins and medals would have to be ready by the

time of the opening of the exposition, which would preclude holding a competition for designs. He further stated that the bills contemplate an award-medal, a souvenir-medal, and four coins of different denomination, one of the coins probably requiring an alternate design, and that he would like the Commission to recommend artists skilled in medal work for the execution of designs. The following names were given him:

For the award-medal, Mr. A. A. Weinman.

For the souvenir-medal, Mr. John Gelert.

For the coins, Mr. Robert I. Aitken.

Miss Evelyn B. Longman.

Mr. Paul H. Manship.

Mr. Charles Keck.

He was further advised that, in the event that satisfactory arrangements could not be made with any one or more of the artists named, selections could be made from the following alternates:

Mr. John Flanagan.

Mr. Augustus Lukeman.

Mr. Sherry E. Fry.

Mr. Leonard Crunelle.

Mr. Bela L. Pratt.

Miss Janet Scudder.

The Commission further advised, upon request, that the \$5,000 anticipated to be available for the preparation of these various designs be divided: For each of the medals, one thousand dollars; for the coins requiring an alternate design, nine hundred dollars; for each of the other coins, seven hundred dollars. (See Exhibit I.)

10. KROONLAND MEDALS: Mr. Roberts took advantage of the opportunity to consult the commission with reference to the design for the obverse of medals to be presented to the captain, officers, and crew of the American steamship KROONLAND for their

rescue of the survivors of the steamship VOLTURNO. The Philadelphia Mint has been directed to design these medals. The Commission had previously reported favorably on a design submitted for the reverse of the medals, but had recommended a restudy of the design for the obverse. Desirable changes in the former design for this obverse were pointed out to Mr. Roberts.

As it was anticipated that a modified design for this obverse would again be submitted to the Commission by the Mint through the Commissioner of Navigation for expression of approval, Mr. French was appointed a committee, with full power, to act in this event.

11. PLAN FOR EAST POTOMAC PARK: Colonel Harts placed before the Commission for suggestions a progress plan for the improvement of the portion of Potomac Park east of the railroad embankment. The plan showed modifications previously suggested by the Commission. Various recommendations and suggestions were made which will be carried out in the further development of the plan.

12. GUILFORD COURT HOUSE, N. C., MEMORIAL MONUMENT: The Secretary thereupon placed before the commission the request of the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, for advice concerning several questions that had arisen in connection with the construction of the monument to be erected at Guilford Court House, North Carolina. The Commission took the following action:

- (a) To the request for an expression as to the suitability of the inscriptions proposed for the monument, attention was called to that portion of the inscription for the bronze tablet for the front of the monument reading "It transformed the American Army into pursuers, the British army into fugitives". It was pointed out that this phrase appears objectionable as being of doubtful propriety in view of the friendly relations that have existed for more than one hundred years between Great Britain and the United States. Otherwise the inscriptions appeared all right.
- (b) To the request as to whether dimensions given by the sculptor for his original model or whether dimensions of his revised design, shown by a drawing dated May 18, 1912, should govern, the Commission called attention to the fact that, under directions of the Secretary of War, the entire setting for the sculptor's original model was

revised to ^{that} shown on the drawing of May 18, 1912, which was also understood to be the final approved drawing for this monument. It was apparent, therefore, that dimensions shown and approved in that drawing should govern.

- (c) To the inquiry as to whether the cost of the two guns shown on the revised and accepted design should be borne by the contractor or by the United States, it was stated that the drawing of May 18, 1912, recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts to the Secretary of War for approval and understood to have been approved by him, shows two guns flanking the central figures of the composition, thereby constituting them an integral feature of the composition as proposed by the sculptor; but that, whether the guns are to be furnished by the sculptor or the United States was obviously a question of original understanding between the sculptor and the contracting officer representing the United States, and therefore a matter for definite statement in the contract.
- (d) To the inquiry whether 12-pdr. bronze Napoleons, now available for the purpose, would be satisfactory, the Commission gave an affirmative answer.

(See Exhibits J and K.)

12. SITE IN WASHINGTON FOR MEMORIAL TO ALFRED NOBLE: Colonel Harts placed before the Commission, informally, a letter from F. H. Newell, Director of the United States Reclamation Service and member of a committee of the board of directors of the American Society of Civil Engineers, requesting a suggestion as to the character and location of an appropriate bronze statue to be erected in Washington to the late Alfred Noble, civil engineer. The Commission felt that it would be difficult to determine upon a site before the character of the proposed memorial, or the proposed treatment of the site, has been determined upon by the committee. They urged, however, that a portrait monument be not the only kind of memorial considered but that the matter be left open for a memorial of a more exceptional character. (See Exhibit L.)

13. PORTRAITS OF CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER: The Commission next inspected five oil portraits of former Chief Justice Fuller, painted respectively by Mr. Gray, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. Vonnoh, and Mr. Whipple, which had been submitted for report by the Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library. None was considered worthy of acquisition. The recommendation was made that some procedure be adopted

whereby portraits of a high grade can be secured to commemorate such distinguished officials, the commission expressing their willingness to make a recommendation as to the best procedure should the Joint Committee request it. (See Exhibit M.)

14. OIL PORTRAIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, BY W. D. MURPHY: At the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for report upon Senate Bill 4445, 63d Congress, 2d Session, proposing the purchase of a portrait painting of Abraham Lincoln by William D. Murphy, the Commission advised that this portrait is not of sufficient value as a work of art to warrant its acquisition by the Government. This is the second time this painting has been referred to the Commission. (See Exhibit N.)

15. EXECUTION OF PAINTING DEPICTING BAPTISM OF VIRGINIA DARE: To the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a ^{report} ~~request~~ upon Senate Bill 4499, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for "the execution of a suitable and creditable painting depicting and perpetuating the baptism of Virginia Dare, the first known celebration of a Christian sacrament on American Soil", the Commission replied that, if Congress considers this event suitable for commemoration, they are of opinion that the amount ~~is sufficient for that purpose. The suggestion was made, however, that the bill~~ of \$10,000 stated in the bill ~~be redrawn so as to give the Joint Committee on the~~ Library authority, with expert advice, to select the artist to paint the picture. (See Exhibit O.)

16. PURCHASE OF REPLICAS OF SEVERAL WORKS BY SAINT-CAUDENS: The next matter under consideration was the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon Senate Bill 5436, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the purchase for permanent exhibition in the National Museum of two pieces of sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens: replicas of the head of Abraham Lincoln from the Lincoln Park statue in Chicago, and of the figure of Victory-Peace from the equestrian statue of General Sherman at the entrance to Central Park in New York City. The Commission felt the acquisition of these two pieces to be desirable, and recommended the passage of the bill. (See Exhibit P.)

17. REPLICA OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS WARD'S STATUE OF WASHINGTON: The Commission next⁸³ considered the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon Senate Bill 3120, 63d Congress, 1st Session, providing for the erection on the east front of the Capitol of a replica of John Quincy Adams Ward's statue of Washington, the original of which is in front of the United States Sub-treasury building in New York City. This statue was considered a work of high artistic merit, and the acquisition of a replica for emplacement in Washington desirable. It was felt to be unwise, however, definitely to fix its proposed location, as provided in the bill, in advance of a careful expert study of the site on the east front of the Capitol with relation to its surroundings. Mr. Olmsted was authorized to prepare the reply to be made to the Senate Committee.

18. MONUMENT PROPOSED AT VALPARAISO, CHILE, TO OFFICERS AND SAILORS OF THE UNITED STATES KILLED IN ESSEX ENGAGEMENT: The next matter under consideration was the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon Senate Bill 5287, 63d Congress, 2d Session, authorizing the Secretary of War to erect a suitable monument at Valparaiso, Chile, to the memory of the officers and sailors who were killed during the engagement between the United States ship Essex and the English ships Phoebe and Cherub in 1814. The Commission felt that such a memorial would have an international value in promoting the friendship between this country and Chile, and would commemorate a brave action participated in by our Navy. The opinion was expressed, however, that the amount of ten thousand dollars specified in the bill would be found inadequate for a monument which should be of a dignity worthy of this country. (See Exhibit Q.)

18. 25 OIL PORTRAITS OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICES OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, BY MR. ROSENTHAL: The Secretary presented the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon 25 oil portraits of various justices of the United States Supreme Court, painted by Mr. Albert Rosenthal of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. These

portraits were enumerated in H. R. 17041, 63d Congress, 2d Session, accompanying the request of the Senate Committee. They were inspected later in the day at the room of the House Committee on the Library, but it was deemed advisable that, before finally deciding in the matter, the Commission should have the opportunity of consulting members of the Supreme Bench as well as of inspecting already acquired portraits of Justices and the places where the above mentioned twenty-five portraits would be hung if acquired. On account of the lateness of the hour this could not be done, and the matter was held over until the next meeting. The opinion was expressed, however, that, if it is considered advisable to form a complete series of the portraits of the justices of the Supreme Court, the Government could hardly expect to do better than to purchase those executed by Mr. Rosenthal.

19. OIL PAINTING OF "OUR GLORY-THE BATTLESHIP OREGON": The Commission thereupon considered Senate Bill 5560, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the purchase, for the sum of \$25,000, of an oil painting by William F. Halsall, entitled "Our Glory-The Battleship Oregon", which had been referred for report by the Senate Committee on the Library. The Commission inspected this painting at the National Museum later in the day. They found the painting very impressive and the sentiment of simplicity and the pictorial qualities excellent, but a restudy of the ship, in particular, desirable. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars provided in the bill was considered excessive for this painting. The matter was held over until the next meeting. It was, however, suggested that Mr. Olmsted consult with Senator Lodge, the sponsor of the Bill providing for its purchase, with a view of having various unacceptable details of the painting corrected.

20. HAMILTON AND JEFFERSON MEMORIALS: The Commission also took up the request of the Senate Committee on the Library for a report upon Senate Bill 1622, 63d Congress, 1st Session, "providing for the erection of memorials to Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton in the District of Columbia". As a comprehensive report on the

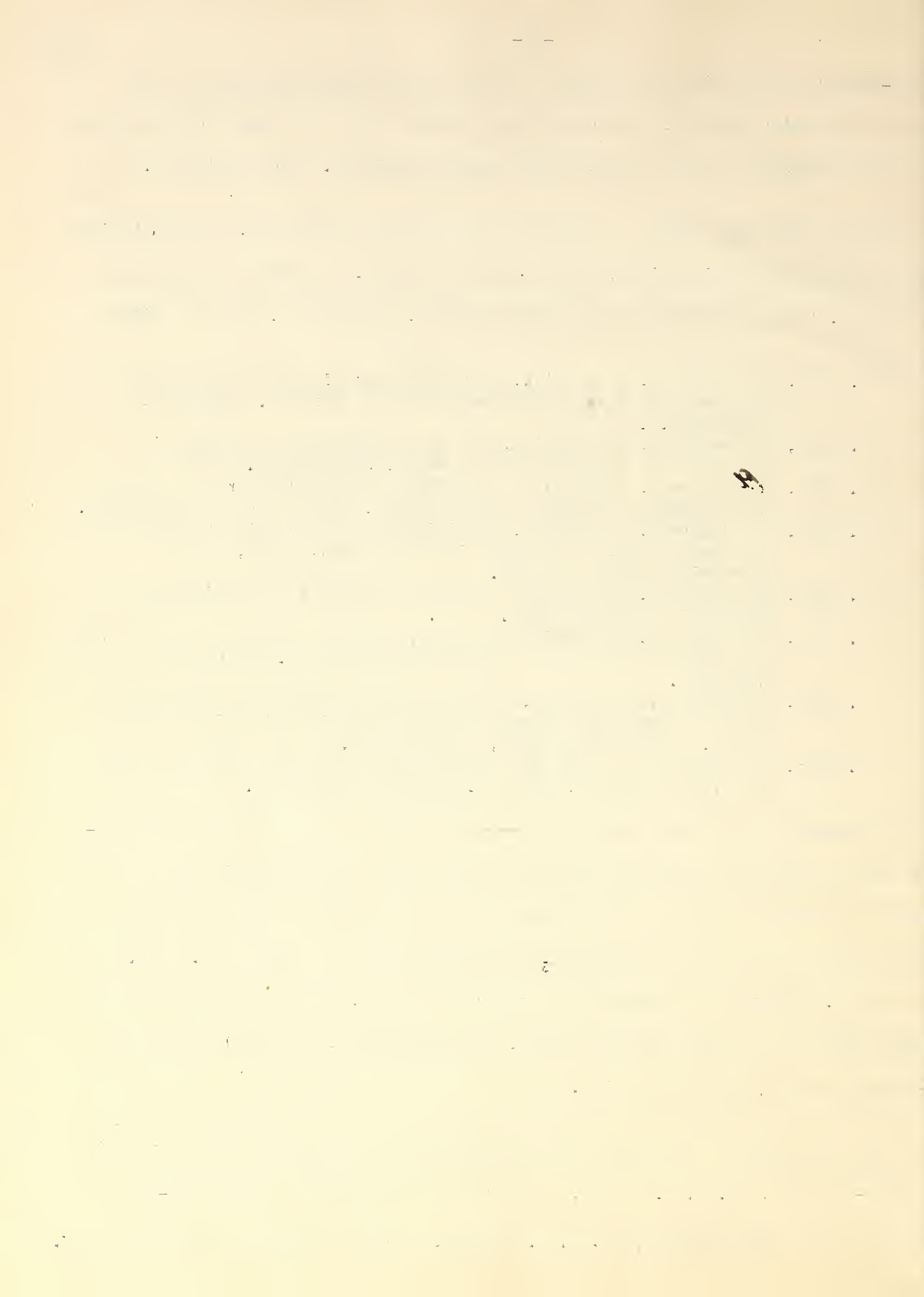
subject-matter of this bill had already been made to the House Committee on the Library on December 28, 1912, the Commission directed that this report be paraphrased so as to be adaptable for the report to the Senate Committee. (See Exhibit R.)

21. VARIOUS BILLS HELD OVER: In view of the lateness of the hour, the Commission directed that the following bills, before them for report, be held over until the next meeting, being in addition to the other matters, referred to, that are being held over:

- S. 4074, 63d Congress, 2d Session, to purchase an oil painting entitled "The Death of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Alonzo H. Cushing at Gettysburg."
- S. 1396, 63d Congress, 1st Session, for the erection of a monument in Washington of Matthew Fontaine Maury, of Virginia.
- S. 5194, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the erection of a statue to the memory of General John Sullivan, in the city of Washington.
- S. 4472, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the erection of a statue at the Panama Canal to be symbolic of universal peace, and to appropriate money therefor.
- S. 4882, 63d Congress, 2d Session, to erect a monument to Ferdinand de Lesseps in the Canal Zone.
- S. 2440, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the erection of a suitable monument on the grave of Major General Henry W. Lawton in Arlington.
- S. 4253, 63d Congress, 2d Session, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to erect a suitable monument over the remains of Admiral Charles Wilkes, United States Navy, in Arlington.
- S. 5916, 63d Congress, 2d Session, for erecting a suitable monument over the grave of Admiral David D. Porter in Arlington.

In this connection the Commission decided ~~that~~, in view of the increase in submissions and to expedite as much as possible all work before the Commission, to appoint a committee to draw up and present at the next meeting a rule providing for the reference of certain submissions by the Commission to a committee. Mr. Moore and Mr. Olmsted were appointed to prepare this rule, and were also asked to prepare reports on the various submissions, above indicated, for consideration of the Commission at their next meeting.

22. MILLET PORTRAIT: The Commission directed that an enlarged portrait of their late Vice-Chairman, Mr. F. D. Millet, be procured to constitute a companion-piece to that of their late Chairman, Mr. D. H. Burnham, already in place in the board room.



23. After consideration of minor questions arising with reference to their proposed exhibit at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, the Commission adjourned at 7 p. m., subject to the call of the Chairman.

Wm. H. Hunt

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Approved: David C. French,

Chairman.

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledge receipt from you of photographs of the executed works of the following sculptors:

Herbert Adams.
Paul W. Bartlett.
Karl Bitter.
Gutzon Borglum.
Sherry Edmundson Fry.
Albert Jaegers.
Isidore Kloti.
Evelyn Beatrice Longman.
Frederick MacMonnies.
Hermon MacNeil.
Charles Henry Niehaus.
Andrew O'Connor.
Edith Hope Ogden.
William Ordway Partridge.
Bela Lyon Pratt.
F. W. Ruckstuhl.
Adolph Weinman.

It is understood that these photographs were transmitted by you in order that you may have the advice of the Commission as to the selection of a sculptor to execute a work of art to represent this nation in the Peace Palace at The Hague; and that the amount available for this work is \$20,000.

After a careful consideration of the qualities which should be embodied in a work of this nature, and also of the location in which it is to be placed, the Commission of Fine Arts respectfully advise that, in their judgment, Mr. Andrew O'Connor is the sculptor best qualified to fulfill those particular requirements.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL C. FRENCH

Chairman.

Hon. William Phillips,

Assistant Secretary of State.

Exhibit A.

Washington, D. C.,

Personal.

July 28, 1914.

My dear Mr. Phillips:

I am transmitting herewith the formal action of the Commission of Fine Arts in regard to the selection of a sculptor for the proposed group of statuary for the Peace Palace at The Hague. The members asked me to advise you informally that, should Mr. O'Connor not be able to undertake the work, they recommend Mr. Herbert Adams or Mr. Paul Bartlett, either of whom would produce results satisfactory to the Department of State.

I am sorry that I could not take this matter up verbally with you, but I have just ascertained that you would be out of the city for some time. I hope you will consider this letter confidential.

Cordially, yours,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. William Phillips,
The Department of State.

Exhibit B.

Washington, D. C., .

July 28, 1914.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of July 20th, and the verbal statements of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, Mr. Wenderoth, in presenting to the Commission of Fine Arts six sets of anonymous competitive designs for the proposed buildings to be used for a post-office and other Government offices at Portland, Oregon, the Commission respectfully report that, in its opinion, no one of the designs submitted shows sufficient evidence of skill to justify the appointment of its author as the architect.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

ABC

Exhibit C

Washington, D. C.,

September 1, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledge receipt of your letter of June twenty-ninth referring to the legislation authorizing a building, at a cost of \$2,500,000, to house the Geological Survey, Bureau of Mines, Reclamation Service, and other offices of the Interior Department in the city of Washington, and stating that the Supervising Architect is about ready to take up the work on the drawings for the building, which is to be located on Square 143, between Eighteenth and Nineteenth, E and F streets, northwest, the site being about 400 feet square. You say that the prospective building, being a Federal building, is, therefore, not subject to the District of Columbia regulations limiting the height of buildings. You further say "As authority is vested in the Commission of Fine Arts to approve a design for this building, this Department would appreciate any statement the Commission now cares to make regarding the maximum height which it believes should be allowed for this structure. It would evidently be a waste of time for the Supervising Architect to base the studies for the structure upon a greater number of stories or a greater height, than your Commission would be willing to approve. At the same time, in view of the demand for space which will be made by the various bureaus of the Interior Department, it will probably be necessary to erect the building of the maximum height which your Commission would consider desirable."

Exhibit D

The questions submitted in this particular instance inevitably lead to much wider questions involving a development of the entire city of Washington. If high buildings are to be erected by the Government in this city, private individuals or corporations should be permitted to do likewise. If the exigencies of business seem to require high buildings in certain sections, those sections should be clearly defined and the rules or the principles of selection should be clearly laid down. The development of high buildings in American cities has been due, in large part, to the increasing demand for space in certain congested centers. In Washington there are no congested areas calling for high structures. The second, and perhaps the most important, reason for the development of high buildings is found in a greater economic efficiency based upon convenience and rapidity of communication by means of the modern invention of passenger elevators. This convenience applies to buildings in congested centers which are subdivided among a multitude of tenants. There is a strong and well-marked tendency among manufacturers who desire to attain the highest efficiency to build low buildings with large floor areas. In view of these facts, the Commission believe that the limit which should be permitted in the business zone of Washington should be ten stories.

The area now under consideration is situated in a section of the city given over largely to buildings of a monumental character. To erect a high building in this area would inevitably create discord. The Commission believe that in no case should the height of buildings in the section under consideration be greater than eighty (80) feet.

In this connection the Commission desire to call attention to certain principles which they believe should govern building in the District of Columbia. Washington is primarily a city of government buildings. The Capitol, both as a work of art and also by reason of patriotic sentiment, is the dominant building in the city. Inadvertently, certain things have been done which interfere with that dominance.

For example, by gilding the dome of the Library of Congress, competition has been created between that dome and the dome of the Capitol. Again, the great and awkward bulk of the Post-Office building, with its high tower, is assertive and disturbing. Third, the view from the Senate end of the Capitol is seriously interfered with by the vast bulk of the Government Printing Office. These are now well recognized mistakes which have brought reproach on the perpetrators, and are a perpetual eye-sore. The Government should not add another to this list of blunders.

The type of departmental building was fixed many years ago. The buildings themselves express the dignity and importance of the offices which they house. While ostensibly the building under contemplation is to house three or four bureaus of the Interior Department, the expressed intention is to transfer to it the administrative offices of the Department itself. The Commission feel that this would be a serious mistake, and that its result would inevitably be to belittle the office. Certainly the Interior Department should seek a home of no less dignity than the one it now occupies. Moreover, the proposed site has no relation to the sites selected by Congress for other Department buildings. When Congress provided for the purchase of the squares on Fifteenth street from Pennsylvania avenue to the Mall, it provided for a dignified grouping of three departmental buildings. There is no good reason for diverging from this principle.

The site in question was originally acquired for the purpose of building a Hall of Records, and at that time there was strenuous objection to the invasion of the section of the city devoted to residences. The site has remained unoccupied for fifteen years or more, and during that interval the section has been devoted to monumental buildings of a public or semi-public character, notably the Lincoln Memorial, the Bureau of American Republics, the Memorial Hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the building for the American Red Cross. All these new buildings have been constructed so as to subordinate them to the White House and to the general scheme of which that building,

the Capitol, the Washington monument, and the Lincoln memorial are focal points. No Government building in this area should disturb the general serenity of the large scheme.

While it is true that Government buildings are not subject to the regulations as to height imposed by the authority of the District of Columbia, yet those regulations were authorized by Congress for the express purpose of protecting Government buildings. The Government itself should not defy regulations imposed by its authority for its own protection. If the Government shall lead the way in the erection of high buildings, private individuals will go further, and the great charm and distinction of Washington will thus be destroyed.

The Commission are of the opinion that the type of development attained by the Bureau of Standards is better fitted for the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines than the housing of those bureaus in a purely office building, for no matter how large the building may be constructed, it will certainly be outgrown. Moreover, both bureaus are highly technical in character, and for their various activities they should each have plenty of land, and the opportunity for the expansion of the various units as necessity arises.

Washington is now essentially an orderly city, and that very quality draws people of distinction and cultivation to the city. During the past ten years the type of business buildings in Washington has been brought to harmonize in large degree with the Government buildings, and the residential section of Washington has developed at an unprecedented rate. There should be no one center of interest in the city, but all parts of the District of Columbia should be developed as harmoniously as may be. Under our form of Government and with our traditions, it is difficult to restrain the individual for the good of the community, especially

in matter of taste, but there is no reason why the Government itself should not exercise self-restraint to accomplish a purpose entirely for its own benefit.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

John W. Frazier, Esq.,
Secretary, Meade Memorial Commission
of the State of Pennsylvania,
403 Weightman Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at the verbal request of Messrs. John W. Frazier of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Secretary, and Mr. John B. Patrick of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Mr. John McElroy of Washington, D. C., members of committees of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania who appeared before them on Friday, July 24th last, hereby confirm the statements then made.

The members of both commissions met on the common ground that their sole desire was to secure the erection in the National Capital City of a memorial worthy to commemorate the services rendered to the Nation by General George Gordon Meade; that such memorial, if it is to be an enduring monument, must have artistic excellence of a high order; and that, therefore, the work should be entrusted to an artist whose ability has been established by works successfully executed. No experiments should be permitted on so important a monument.

The members of the committees of the Meade Memorial Commission said that they were considering the question of making the direct selection of a certain artist of high reputation. Such a selection would be in line with the principles which, this Commission believes, should govern the selection of artists to execute public works.

The Meade Memorial Commission members further said that as an alternative proposition they had in mind a competition limited to three sculptors:

Exhibit E

The Commission advised that, in the event that a competition be held, a jury of competent experts should be selected, such jury to be made up preferably of one sculptor, one architect, and one landscape architect; because the character of the memorial itself, its relation to other structures, and its landscape setting all are matters of vital importance. This jury should be relied upon to advise the Meade Memorial Commission on the technical matters just adverted to. Prior to the competition a programme should be prepared under expert advice for the purpose of giving to each competitor the data necessary to a consideration of the problem; and also so that each competitor shall have the same data.

When the sculptor shall have been selected by the Meade Memorial Commission, his design should be sent for approval to the Commission of Fine Arts.

By direction of the Commission:

Respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

ABC

March 28, 1914.

John W. Frazier, Esq.,
Secretary, Meade Memorial Commission
of the State of Pennsylvania,
403-406 Weightman Building,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

My dear Mr. Frazier:

In pursuance of your request of March twenty-first for a statement upon the action of the Commission of Fine Arts with reference to a suitable site for the proposed Meade Memorial, it gives me pleasure to submit the following for your use and information.

Mr. John W. Frazier of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Secretary of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania, Mr. John B. Patrick of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Mr. John McElroy of Washington, D. C., members of committees of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania, accompanied by Representative J. Washington Logue of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, called on the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting held on March twentieth and suggested several sites that appeared to the committee suited for the location of the proposed statue of General Meade.

The site they preferred was one near the Grant Memorial now under construction. This site seemed to the Commission of Fine Arts entirely suitable, being one commensurate with the part played by General Meade. Moreover, the Commission felt that a statue, if well executed and properly placed could be made to enhance the attractiveness of an area which should become one of the finest embellishments of Washington.

A study for the development of the space now included in the grounds of the Botanic Garden was made several years ago, before the Grant Memorial was designed. The size and character of that memorial has made necessary an entire restudy of the area; and the Commission are of the opinion that a very careful plan should be prepared before the exact location of the Meade statue shall be determined.

Exhibit 7.

The Commission is prepared to say that, if Congress shall see fit to authorize the location of the Meade statue in the locality adverted to, the statue can be located in that area in such a manner as to be at once worthy memorial and an ornament to the city, provided that a satisfactory plan for the entire area shall first be worked out.

I enclose the small sketch requested by you, which shows the location of the Capitol and the Grant Memorial, and the area in the vicinity of the latter (which is enclosed in red) containing the proposed site for the Meade Memorial.

Very truly, yours,

(Signed) Wm. W. Harts

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, to whom was referred Senate Bill 1299, 63d Congress, 1st Session, providing for the preparation of a plan and the erection of a foundation and pedestal on ground belonging to the Government in the city of Washington for a memorial or statue to Major-General George Gordon Meade, respectfully report:

At the suggestion of the Committee on the Library of the House of Representative members of Committees of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania, accompanied by Representative J. Washington Logue of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, conferred with the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting held on March 20th last regarding the subject-matter of the above mentioned bill. These gentlemen of the committee suggested several sites that appeared to them suited for the location of the proposed statue of General Meade, but preferred a site near the Grant Memorial now under construction. This site seems to the Commission of Fine Arts entirely suitable, being one commensurate with the part played by General Meade. Moreover, the Commission felt that a statue, if well executed and properly placed, could be made to enhance the attractiveness of an area which could be one of the finest embellishments of Washington.

Members of committees of the Meade Memorial Commission of the Statue of Pennsylvania, at another conference with the Commission of Fine Arts on Friday last further stated that such an increase of appropriation over that stated in the bill is now assured by the State of Pennsylvania as would be requisite for an adequate treatment of this location. There is enclosed a

Exhibit 8.

small sketch showing the location of the Capitol and Grant Memorial and the area in the vicinity of the latter (enclosed in red) containing the suggested site for this statue.

A study for the development of this **entire** area was made several years ago, before the Grant Memorial was designed. The size and character of that memorial have made necessary an entire restudy of the area; and the Commission are of the opinion that a **very** careful plan should be prepared before the exact location there for the Meade statue shall be determined. The Commission is prepared to say that, if Congress shall see fit to authorize the location of the Meade statue in the locality adverted to, the statue can be located in that area in such a manner as to be at once a worthy memorial and an ornament to the city, provided that ^asatisfactory plan for the entire area shall be first worked out. ₁

The Commission recommend the passage of the bill.

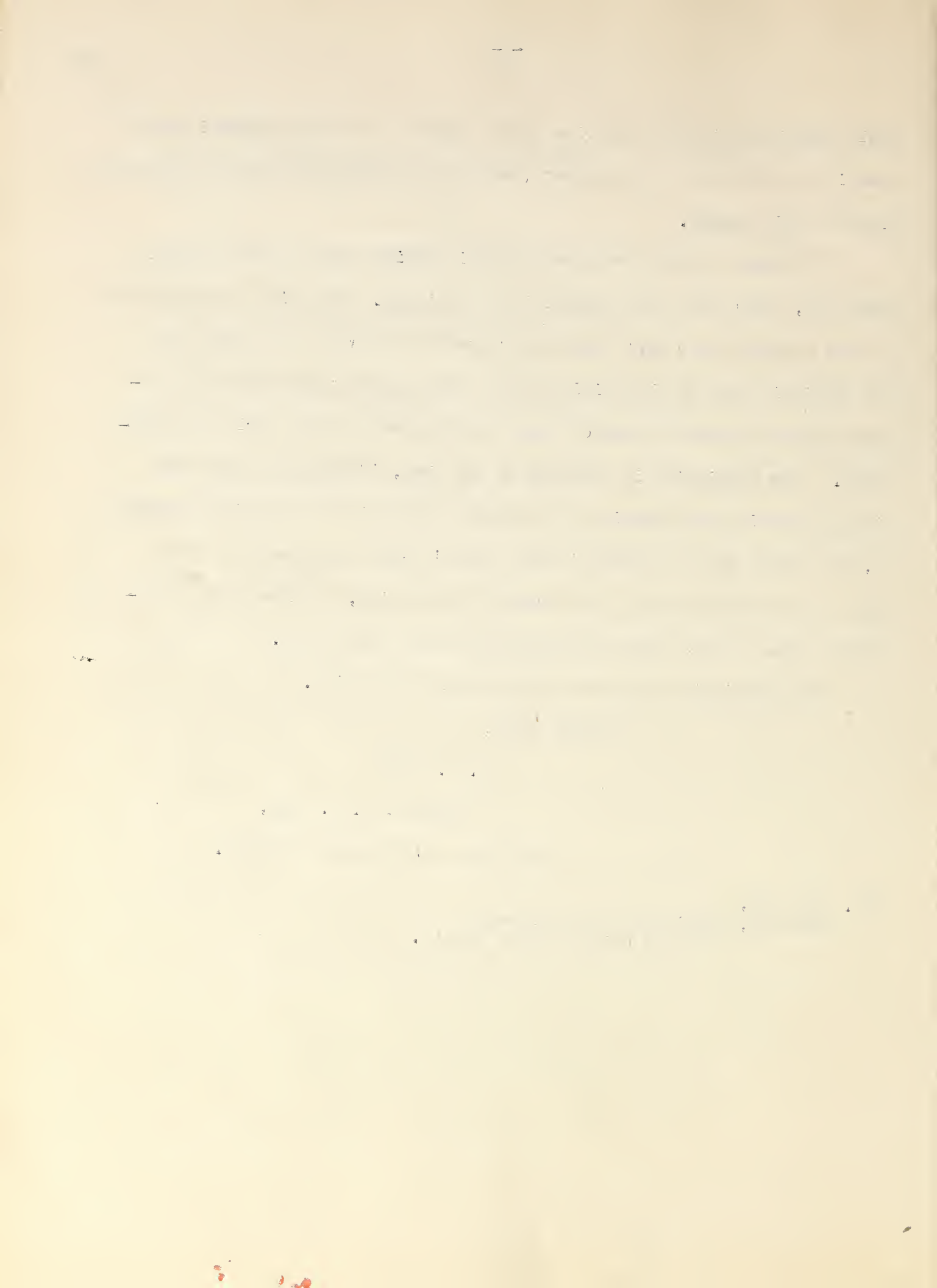
Respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Chairman, Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.



Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:-

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held Friday, July 24th last, I placed before them your letter of July 7th, 1914, enclosing copy of H. J. Res. 234, 63d Congress, 2nd Session, "Directing the selection of a site for the erection of a statue in Washington, D. C. to the memory of General George Meade, " with the request to be informed what, if any, recommendations the Commission made with regard to this measure.

The Commission direct me to inform you that, at the suggestion of your Committee, members of committees of the Meade Memorial Commission of the State of Pennsylvania accompanied by Representative J. Washington Logue of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, conferred with them at a meeting held on March 20th last regarding the subject-matter of the above mentioned bill. These gentlemen of the committee suggested several sites that appeared to them suited for the location of the proposed statue of General Meade, but preferred a site near the Grant Memorial now under construction. This site seemed to the Commission of Fine Arts entirely suitable, being one commensurate with the part played by General Meade. Moreover, the Commission felt that a statue, if well executed and properly placed, could be made to enhance the attractiveness of an area which should become one of the finest embellishments of Washington.

Members of committees of the Meade Memorial Commission, at another conference with the Commission of Fine Arts on Friday last, further stated that such an increase of appropriation over that stated in the bill is now assured by the State of Pennsylvania as would be requisite for an adequate treatment of this location. Thereis enclosed a small sketch showing the

Exhibit A.

location of the Capitol and Grant Memorial and the area in the vicinity of the latter (enclosed in red) containing the suggested site for this statue.

A study for the development of this entire area was made several years ago, before the Grant Memorial was designed. The size and character of that memorial have made necessary an entire restudy of the area; and the Commission are of the opinion that a very careful plan should be prepared before the exact location there for the Meade Statue shall be determined. The Commission is prepared to say that, if Congress shall see fit to authorize the location of the Meade statue in the locality adverted to, the statue can be located in that area in such a manner as to be at once a worthy memorial and an ornament to the city, provided that a satisfactory plan for the entire area shall first be worked out.

Respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS.

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. James L. Slayden,
Chairman, Committee on Library
of the House of Representatives.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of July twenty-fourth carrying the endorsement of the Secretary of the Treasury.

You state that bills are now pending in the Senate providing for the issue of souvenir coins and that these bills contemplate an award-medal, a souvenir-medal, and four different coins, one of which coins may require alternate designs. You have asked this Commission to recommend to you certain artists skilled in medal work for the execution of these designs.

After consideration, this Commission make the following recommendations: For the award-medal, Mr. A. A. Weinman, 441 West 21st street, New York City; for the souvenir-medal, Mr. John Gelert, 11 East 14th street, New York City; for the coins, Mr. Robert I. Aitken, 510 Park avenue, New York City, - Miss Evelyn B. Longman, 11 East 14th street, New York City, - Mr. Paul H.anship, 27 Lexington avenue, New York City, - and Mr. Charles Keck, 148 West 36th street, New York City.

In the event that satisfactory arrangements can not be made with any one or more of the artist~~S~~ named, the Commission suggest as alternates Mr. John Flanagan, 1931 Broadway, New York City, - Mr. Augustus Lukeman, 145 West 55th street, New York City, - Sherry E. Fry, 1931 Brodway, New York City, - Mr. Leonard Crumelle, Fine Arts Building, Chicago, Illinois, - Miss Janet Scudder, 141 East 19th street, New York City, - and Mr. Bela L. Pratt, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts.

Exhibit 4.

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The Commission further recommend that the amount anticipated to be available for the preparation of the designs be divided as follows: -
for each of the medals, one thousand dollars; for the coin requiring an alternate design, nine hundred dollars; for each of the other coins, seven hundred dollars.

The Commission understand from your letter that the legislation for these medals and coins has not yet been effected, and that you are anticipating the passage of certain bills so that you may be prepared to expedite the work and to have the medals and coins ready at the opening of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. George E. Roberts,

Director of the Mint,

United States Treasury.

2d Indorsement.

The Commission of Fine Arts, July 28, 1914 - To the Chief of Engineers, U. S. A.

1. With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter of June 24, 1914, from the District Engineer Officer at Wilmington, North Carolina, to the Chief of Engineers, United States Army:

It appears from the records of this office that the contract for the memorial monument to be erected at Guilford Court House, North Carolina, was directed by the Secretary of War to be awarded to Mr. Packer provided certain indicated modifications were made by the latter in the architectural setting of his first model submitted in competition (see 23142-79 W. D., February 21, 1912.). These modifications were made, and the whole composition, as finally recommended for approval by the Commission of Fine Arts, represented by the drawing of May 18, 1912. It is understood that this revised sketch was approved by the Secretary of War, and forms part of the contract for the erection of the monument. The dimensions shown in this drawing should therefore supersede those indicated for the first submitted model.

2. The Commission recommend the omission of that portion of the proposed inscription for the inlaid and raised bronze tablet for the front of the monument reading "It transformed the American Army into pursuers, the British Army into fugitives.". This phrase appears to be objectionable as being of doubtful propriety in view of the friendly relations that have existed for more than one hundred years between Great Britain and the United States.

The proposed inscriptions appear satisfactory, otherwise.

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Exhibit J.

8th Indorsement.

The Commission of Fine Arts, July 28, 1914- To the Chief of Engineers, U. S. A.

1. In memorandum from the Secretary of War to the Chief of Engineers dated February 21, 1912 (23142-79 W. D.) the Secretary directed the awarding of the contract for the memorial monument to be erected on the battlefield of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina, to Mr. F. H. Packer. This award was made with the provision that Mr. Packer submit to the Department a modification of the architectural setting of his first model, submitted in competition, "so as to make the architectural setting more reasonably subordinate to the statue and suitable to the site", as was suggested by the Commission of Fine Arts. Acting upon this suggestion, Mr. Packer, after consultation with members of the Commission of Fine Arts, revised the setting as is shown by the drawing of May 18, 1912; this was recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts to the Secretary of War for approval and is understood to have received the approval of the latter, thereby forming the basis of the existing contract with Mr. Packer. This drawing shows two guns flanking the two central figures of the composition, and shows them to be an integral feature of the composition as approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

However, whether these guns, forming an important component of the architectural setting, are to be furnished by the United States or by the contractor is obviously a question of original understanding between the contractor and the contracting officer representing the United States, and therefore a matter for definite statement in the contract between ^{the} two parties. If no provision in the contract covers the furnishing of these guns free by the United States it would appear that the contractor is to furnish them as part of his composition, complete. If the contracting officer finds it desirable to relieve the contractor of this expense of furnishing the guns, based upon some previous understanding to that effect, his course would probably be to embody this provision in a supplementary contract.

2. The Commission believe that the 12-pdr. bronze guns (Napoleons) referred to in the sixth indorsement would be satisfactory for the purpose.

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

ABC

Exhibit 7K

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

F. H. Newell, Esq.,
Director, The United States Reclamation Service,
The Department of the Interior.

My dear Mr. Newell:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held last Friday, I placed before them, informally, your request of July fifteenth for a suggestion as to a suitable site in the city of Washington for the memorial proposed by the American Society of Civil Engineers to the late Alfred Noble.

The Commission directed me to inform you that it would be difficult to determine upon a site before the character of the memorial or the proposed treatment of a site for the memorial has been determined upon by your committee. They further urge that a portrait monument be not the only kind of memorial considered by your committee but that the matter be left open for a suitable memorial of a more exceptionable character.

I shall be very glad to talk this matter over with you at any time it suits your convenience.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Most sincerely, yours,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Exhibit L

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

In accordance with your request of July 14, 1914, the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on July 24th examined each of the five portraits of former Chief Justice Fuller, painted respectively by Mr. Gray, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Rosenthal, Mr. Vonnoh and Mr. Whipple.

The Commission are of the opinion that none of these five portraits is worthy of acquisition by the Government. The Commission earnestly recommend that some procedure be adopted whereby portraits of a high grade can be secured to commemorate distinguished officials of the Government. If your Committee think well of adopting such a form of procedure the Commission of Fine Arts is prepared to make recommendations as to the method of selecting artists.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Chairman, Joint Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.

Exhibit M.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

In accordance with the request in your letter of June 30, 1914, the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on July 24, examined the painting of Abraham Lincoln painted by Mr. William D. Murphy, the purchase of which is proposed by Senate Bill 4446 63d Congress, 2d Session.

The Commission are of the opinion that this portrait of Lincoln is not of sufficient value as a work of art to warrant its acquisition by the Government.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS,

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,

Chairman, Committee on the Library,

of the United States Senate.

Exhibit N.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting last Friday gave careful consideration to your request of June 30, 1914, for report upon Senate Bill 4499, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing "For the execution of a suitable and creditable painting depicting and perpetuating the baptism of Virginia Dare, the first known celebration of a Christian sacrament on American soil".

If Congress shall consider this event suitable for commemoration, the Commission is of the opinion that the amount of \$10,000 stated in the bill is sufficient for that purpose. The Commission suggest, however, that the bill be redrawn so as to give the Joint Committee on the Library authority, with expert advice, to select the artist to paint the picture.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Chairman, Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.

Exhibit



Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting held last Friday gave careful consideration to your request of June 30, 1914, for report upon Senate Bill 5436, 63d Congress, 2d Session, providing for the purchase for permanent exhibition in the National Museum of two pieces of sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens; replicas of the head of Abraham Lincoln from the Lincoln Park statue in Chicago, and of the figure of Victory-Peace from the equestrian statue of General William Tecumseh Sherman at the entrance to Central Park in New York City.

The Commission recommend the passage of this bill.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,
Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Chairman, Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.

Exhibit P

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Washington, D. C.,

July 28, 1914.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts acknowledge the reference, for report, of Senate Bill 5287, 63d Congress, 2d Session, "Authorizing the Secretary of War to erect a monument at Valparaiso, Chile, to the memory of the officers and sailors who were killed during the engagement between the United States ship Essex and the English ships Phoebe and Cherub in eighteen hundred and fourteen." The Commission feel that such a memorial would have an international value in promoting the friendship between this country and Chile, and would at the same time commemorate a brave action participated in by our Navy.

Should it be decided to erect the memorial the Commission is of opinion that the amount specified in the bill, ten thousand dollars, is inadequate, since the monument should be of a dignity worthy of this country.

By direction of the Commission:

Respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,

Chairman, Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.

Exhibit 2.

Washington, D. C.,

July 27, 1914.

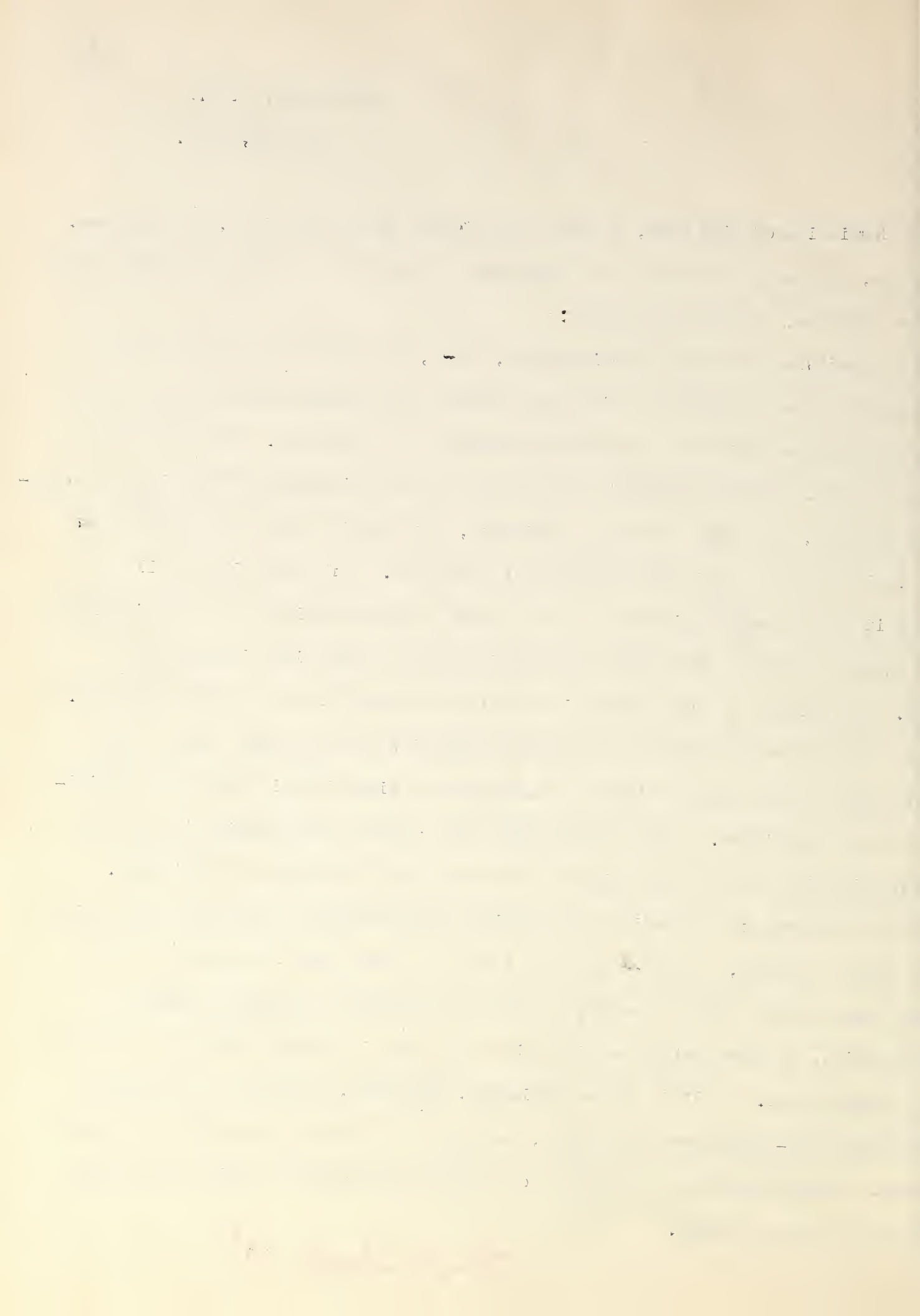
Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, to whom was referred Senate Bill 1622, 63d Congress, 1st Session, proposing the erection in Washington of memorials to Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton, respectfully report:

This Commission took under consideration, first, the sites east of the Capitol now occupied by the bronze vases which once flanked the Greenough statue of George Washington that was removed to the National Museum a few years ago. We understand that these sites, although excluded by the terms of the legislation authorizing the memorials in question, have been seriously considered, and that it might be possible to ~~obtain~~ obtain legislation to permit the use of these locations. If these sites shall be selected ~~it~~ would seem desirable to place in the former location of the Washington statue another statue of Washington executed in material that will withstand the weather. At present the only statue in the Capitol grounds is one of John Marshall. To place the statues of Jefferson and Hamilton opposite the principal front of the Capitol calls for the central figure of Washington to give historic unity and significance to the composition. Such action would find further justification in the fact that both the site for and the design of the Capitol were selected by Washington.

Should Congress now authorize the location of the statues of Jefferson and Hamilton in the Capitol grounds, it seems ~~seem~~ probable that at a later date the statues of John Jay and James Madison would be added, in order to complete the group of authors of The Federalist, to whom history ascribes the chief part in bringing about the adoption of the Constitution. It is to be considered, therefore, whether it is desirable to break the long-established precedents, recognized in the act now before you, which precedents exclude the Capitol Grounds from consideration; and to begin the erection of statues in these grounds.

Exhibit R



If the location named shall be selected, a readjustment of the surrounding landscape should be made; and the memorials themselves should have accessory sculpture indicating the historic character of the personages. They should not be simply portrait statues. The architectural features also should be in entire harmony with the Capitol. The problem of an artistically successful treatment is a difficult one. This Commission therefore advised that, before sites in the Capitol grounds shall be determined upon, preliminary studies be made by competent artists, so that your Committee can be certain that the enumerated difficulties will be overcome.

A location might be found on the newly acquired lands flanking the approach to the Capitol from the Union Station Plaza. The Memorials would then form the central embellishments of considerable park areas, and the parks themselves might appropriately be named respectively Jefferson Park and Hamilton Park. In this manner the improvement of these park spaces would be hastened, the sculptors would have a much freer hand in carrying out their conceptions, and the precedent of not admitting statuary into the grounds of the Capitol would be maintained.

The construction of a new building for the Department of State suggests that some statue will find a place of first importance in relation thereto. Thomas Jefferson was not only the first Secretary of State, but ~~he~~ ^{was} the author of the Declaration of Independence, which historic document is in the custody of that Department. Unless and until some plan is adopted looking to the commemoration of the Presidents of the United States, or of the founders of the Republic, the most fitting place for the memorial to Jefferson would seem to be in connection with the Department of State.

An appropriate location for the Hamilton memorial would be in connection with the Treasury Department. Among Alexander Hamilton's many services to the Nation, those rendered in connection with the fiscal system ^{were} ~~with~~ both conspicuous and enduring, thus making the site suggested singularly fitting.

Whether the memorials shall be erected in the Capitol Grounds, in the new parks

facing the Union Station Plaza, or in connection with the Department buildings, their relations to the structures named should be considered carefully, and the pedestals and landscape settings should be designed so as to make harmonious compositions. Therefore the sculptor will desire to associate with himself an architect and perhaps a landscape architect in order to produce a result entirely harmonious with the situation, either as that situation exists today or as it may be developed.

Congress appropriated \$250,000 for the Grant Memorial; but so many have been the changes and so costly the delays that the sculptor has had a small money reward. The statue of General Sherman, together with its setting, has cost \$131,000, but here again the vicissitudes brought about by the death of the original holder of the commission and the changes made after the work was begun enhanced the cost unduly. For the Columbus Memorial composition Congress appropriated \$100,000, and this sum would seem to be a proper one for each of the statues contemplated, provided the sum is to include the cost of the foundations and the landscape treatment of the setting.

The method of choosing the sculptor or sculptors remains to be considered. If the commission to be erected to take charge of the erection of the statues shall become satisfied that there is some one sculptor whose executed work is of such a character as to make reasonably certain a successful outcome, then a direct personal selection would be preferable, the sketches to be submitted to this Commission for approval before execution.

In case a competition shall be found desirable, it would be well to have three money rewards besides the award of the work. This encourages a better class of competitors, because sculptors of reputation have work sufficient to keep them from entering competitions in which there is small opportunity to receive remuneration for the labor and expense of preparing sketches. In case of a competition, five sculptors might be selected directly, and others disposed to enter might be given the opportunity.

In any case, after the site has been determined, a programme should be

prepared setting forth the conditions imposed upon the artists, and a commission of experts should be named to pass upon the merits of the sketches submitted. In this way it will be possible to secure works of art which, while worthily commemorating Jefferson and Hamilton, will also adorn the National Capital.

In considering the questions submitted this Commission were led to examine the list of statues now erected in the District of Columbia and to note therein the lack of historic perspective. Of the two chief personages in our national history, Washington is fittingly commemorated in the great monument that bears his name. A memorial to Abraham Lincoln is now in process of erection. Of the others who have occupied the Presidential chair President Garfield alone has a statue erected in his honor, although there is a statue of Andrew Jackson in his military capacity. Outside the Capitol no Vice-President is commemorated. John Marshall alone among justices of the Supreme Court has a place beyond the precincts of that tribunal. The Revolution is represented by Generals Washington, Greene, Lafayette, Rochambeau, Von Steuben, Pulaski, and Kosciuszko, Commodore John Barry, and Captain John Paul Jones — three of the nine being Americans. General Jackson is the sole representative of the War of 1812, as General Scott alone stands for the Mexican War. The Civil War is represented by no fewer than eleven statues — those of General Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, McClellan, Hancock, Rawlins, McPherson, Thomas, Logan, and Admirals Farragut and Dupont — and by the Peace Monument and the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial. Science and Medicine are exemplified by Prof. Joseph Henry, Daguerre, Gross, and Hahnemann; exploration is typified by Columbus and General Pike; a private individual erected statues to Franklin and Webster; Witherspoon represents church and state, as Longfellow does the world of letters; and the century-old District of Columbia finds its only exponent in Alexander R. Shepherd.

The foregoing list includes only those works of sculpture that are used both for the adornment of the city of Washington and for the commemoration of the individual. This Commission calls attention to the matter only because Congress appears to have begun systematically to make appropriations for the purpose of commemorating the memory of those who have deserved well of the Republic.

By the direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

WM. W. HARTS

Colonel, U. S. Army,

Secretary and Executive Officer.

Hon. Luke Lea,
Chairman, Committee on the Library
of the United States Senate.

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